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If we proceed upon this plan and in earnest, we may expect to meet with success abroad, and with, what is better, peace at home: So be it.
June 6, 1741.

(Endorsed in a different hand.)

6 June 1741

Some Thoughts relating
to our Conquests in America.

(Endorsed in Vernon's hand)

M^r Steph D^eVeros.

2. *Letters to Caleb Strong, 1786, 1800.*

SOME years ago the Rev. S. C. Strong, a great-grandson of Caleb Strong, presented to the Historical and Natural History Society of South Natick, Massachusetts, a collection of letters addressed to his ancestor. They are now in the museum of that society, close by the site of John Eliot's Indian church. By the kindness of Mr. Gustavus Smith, president of the society, we are permitted to print the two following letters. At the time when the first letter was written, Caleb Strong (1745-1819) was a member of the Massachusetts senate. He was a member of the United States Senate (Federalist) from 1789 to 1796, and governor of Massachusetts from 1800 to 1807 and from 1812 to 1816. Theodore Sedgwick, who succeeded Strong in the Senate, and from 1799 to 1801 was Speaker of the House of Representatives, was in 1786 a member of the Continental Congress. His letter illustrates by an early instance the disunion sentiment of New England Federalists. The letter from Dwight Foster, Senator from Massachusetts 1800-1803, casts light upon those events of the election in South Carolina in 1800 which were illustrated by the series of letters printed in the last number of this REVIEW, pp. 111-129.

I. THEODORE SEDGWICK TO CALEB STRONG.

New York 6. August, 1786.

My dear Sir,

By the last post I had the pleasure to receive your letter of the 28th ult. the contents convey evidence of such a disposition in my countrymen as must give pain to every well disposed mind.

The affairs of the continent are in such circumstances as afford no balance to the disorders of the particular states. Should Massachusetts fall into anarchy the great prop of the union would be prostrate. For altho the public conduct of Massachusetts when viewed by itself would not strongly inspire veneration, yet when compared with any other State in the union, the comparison will irresistably compel conviction that her

councils produce measures more the result of wisdom and integrity than any other.

Our commissioners are returned from the *mediterranean* without effecting anything, no reasonable hope of any other event could have been formed. The interest of every commercial and maritime power in europe opposes ours as related to this object, and Great Britain, which is in strict friendship with the pirates would go great lengths in gratifying her malice and jealousy to defeat our purpose. congress have not yet come to any ultimate decision on this subject. I have formed my opinion as to policy in the object to be persued, but this must not at present be put on paper.

No reasonable expectations of advantage can be formed from the commercial convention.¹ The first proposers designed none. the measure was originally brought forward with an intention of defeating the enlargement of the powers of Congress. Of this I have the most decisive evidence. It well becomes the eastern and middle States, who are in interest one, seriously to consider what advantages result to them from their connection with the Southern States. They can give us nothing, as an equivalent for the protection which they derive from us but a participation in their commerce. This they deny to us. Should their conduct continue the same, and I think there is not any prospect of an alteration, an attempt to perpetuate our connection with them, which at last too will be found ineffectual, will sacrifice everything to a meer chimera. Even the appearance of a union cannot in the way we now are long be preserved. It becomes us seriously to contemplate a substitute ; for if we do not controul events we shall be miserably controuled by them. No other substitute can be devised than that of contracting the limits of the confederacy to such as are natural and reasonable, and within those limits instead of a nominal to institute a real, and an efficient government.

This language will appear to you I am affraid as evidence of pusillanimity, but I do not think that in politics I am timid.

We have made another requisition which includes such part of the principal of the foreign debt as will become payable next year. to this measure I gave my assent not from any apprehension that it would produce any considerable effect, but because I wish congress may do her duty. Several of the States have never passed any acts in persuance of the requisition of 84, not half on that of last year and still less is to be expected from the present.

It will be unnecessary to inform you that this letter is wrote with great haste and in that confidence of your friendship which I have long flattered myself I was so happy as to possess. Some matters of very great importance but with regard to which secrecy at present is enjoined will detain me here a little longer. As soon as these are completed which I hope will be the case in 8 or 10 days I shall again return to the vale of private life. There confiding in the wisdom of Doctor Holten that all

¹ At Annapolis.

things will be happily adjusted I will seek contentment.—Compt^s I pray you to M^r S.

I am my dear Sir,
Your sincerely affec^{te}
THEODORE SEDGWICK

M^r Strong.

II. DWIGHT FOSTER TO CALEB STRONG.

City of Washington Dec. 12th 1800

My dear Sir,

I thank you for your Favour of the 29th ult^o which came to Hand in due course by the Mail. I was happy to learn that so much unanimity with honourable Principles had prevailed in the Legislature of Massachusetts in the appointment of Electors. If as You supposed the late Election had depended on Pennsylvania we had been safe. The opposition gained only the advantage of one Majority by the Electors in that State. Far more important was the Vote of South Carolina; all depended on the success of the federal Ticket at Columbia and there our last hopes have been defeated. The Election came on upon the 2nd inst. There were present 115 members of the House of Representatives and 36 of the Senate, making the whole number 151; of which 76 were a majority. The Tickets and numbers for each of the nominees were as follows.

Federal		Antifederal	
Gen'l Washington	69	Robert Anderson	85
John Ward	69	John Hunter	87
W ^m Falconer	64	A. Simpkins	84
Col ^o J. Postell	66	Wade Hampton	82
Capt. Blasingame	66	A. Love	82
Gen'l M ^o Pherson	66	Theo. Gaillard	85
H ^r Dana Ward	63	Paul Hamilton	87
Thomas Roper	67	Joseph Blythe	82

Mr. DeSaussure the Writer states that they could have easily formed a Ticket composed of Men who would have been appointed by a great Majority for the Election of Jefferson and Pinckney. Many who were extremely anxious to support Jefferson proposed to the Federalists to form a Ticket uniting the Interests of Jefferson and Pinckney being at the same time deeply reluctant to give up Gen' P. but on the most mature Deliberation it was deemed the wisest and most honourable to adhere to the federal arrangements heretofore made for the equal support of Mr. Adams and Gen'l Pinckney.

The General is a Member of the Legislature and was present. he firmly resisted every Inducement to be associated with Jefferson at the Expense of Mr. Adams. Both he and our other Friends there have in the whole transaction behaved in the most honourable Manner. He has shown himself worthy of the Honours which we wished to have conferred